

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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U.S. INDICTS YONKERS MAN FOR PRODUCING ILLEGAL FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND NEW YORK CITY POLICE BADGES

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that ELIOT SASH, a Yonkers resident, has been indicted on charges of producing and possessing thousands of false and counterfeit identification cards and badges of federal law enforcement officers and New York City Police Department officers.

According to the twenty-four count Indictment returned in Manhattan federal court, SASH, 46, who is also known as "Steven Sash" and "Eliot Sashe," produced and possessed badges, identification cards, and other identification documents, as well as the molds, tools, and other materials necessary to produce false identification documents.

During execution of a search warrant at SASH's home, federal agents seized thousands of false identification documents and badges that appeared to be issued by the United States

Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug

Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the General Services Administration Protective Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the United States Border Patrol, the United States Marshals Service, the New York City Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies. SASH pled guilty in 1998 to a similar, though less serious, charge of possessing federal law enforcement officer badges and was placed under three years of supervised release.

In related charges, SASH was also indicted on three counts of access device fraud arising from an alleged scheme he implemented to defraud the K-Mart department store chain by counterfeiting UPC bar codes symbols from May to December, 2002.

Mr. COMEY praised the investigative efforts of the New York City Police Department and the United States General Services Administration's Office of the Inspector General, which participated in the investigation of SASH and the execution of the search warrant.

Assistant United States Attorney HARRY A. CHERNOFF is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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